Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:DTMORRISON

APPROVED BY NEA/RA:HPRECHT

NEA/ARP:JWINN

USDOC/CAGNE:JHEARN

-----026810 090644Z/13

R 090209Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUEHAL/AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA 0000

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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FOL RPT ABU DHABI $\,$ 0420 SENT ACTION SECSTATE & USDOC WASHDC

DTD 14 FEB 78

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 0420

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: ETRD, TC

SUBJECT: ADNOC APPLICATION OF ARAB BOYCOTT REGULATIONS FOR RUWAIS

PROJECT

REFS: (A) 77 ABU DHABI 3427, (B) ABU DHABI 0186

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE FROM REFTELS, EMBASSY HAS BEEN

ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN GETTING ABU DHABI NATIONAL OIL COMPANY TO REMOVE FROM ITS CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE THAT POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS OF GOODS AND SERVICES AGREE TO SUBMIT NEGATIVE CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN AND OTHER STATEMENTS UNACCEPTABLE UNDER FINAL EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT REGULATIONS

2. ADNOC HAS NOW ISSUED NEW SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL WHICH STILL GIVES US PROBLEMS. THESE SPECIAL CONDITIONS READ AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE: BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

-- A. THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI ACTING BY AND THROUGH BUYER REQUIRE THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LAWS OF ABU DHABI WITH RESPECT TO THE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL AS FOLLOWS: -

SELLAR AND ITS SUB-SUPPLIERS SHALL STRICTLY
OBSERVE ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOYCOTT
OF ISRAEL AS DETERMINED BY THE LEAGUE OF ARAB
STATES. ACCORDINGLY, NO MATERIALS SHALL BE SUPPLIED
WHICH HAVE BEEN MANUFACTURED BY ANY FIRM WHICH IS ON
THE SAID LIST.

EACH DELIVERY OF MATERIAL SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY: -

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- (1) A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN COUNTERSIGNED
 THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.
 THE CERTIFICATE SHALL ALSO BE COUNTERSIGNED AND
 LEGALIZED BY THE NEAREST UAE EMBASSY. IN COUNTRIES
 WHERE UAE HAVE NO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION, COUNTERSIGNATURE AND LEGALIZATION BY ANY OTHER ARAB EMBASSY
 SHALL BE ACCEPTED.
- (2) IN ADDITION TO (1) ABOVE, MANUFACTURES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY SHALL STATE IN THEIR INVOICES THAT THEIR PRODUCTS DO NOT FORM PART OF GERMAN COMPENSATIONS TO ISRAEL.

THE INTERPRETATION, ADMINISTRATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THIS PROVISION SHALL BE UNDER THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE DIRECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI ACTING BY AND THROUGH BUYER.

-- B. BUYER SHALL INTERPRET, ADMINISTER, IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LAWS OF ABU DHABI WITH REPECT TO THE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL DIRECTLY WITH

SELLER; AND CONTRACTOR SHALL HAVE NO AUTHORITY OR POWER TO ACT IN ANY MANNER TO INTERPRET, ADMINISTER, IMPLEMENT OR ENFORCE SAID LAWS EITHER AGAINST SELLER, ITS SUB-COMTRACTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHERS.

END QUOTE

3. I HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH ADNOC GENERAL MANAGER KROUHA AT 8:30 A.M. LOCAL THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16 TO DISCUSS THESE REVISED CONDITIONS AND EXPLAIN THIS LANGUAGE UNACCEPTABLE. I PLAN TO POINT OUT TO KROUHA THAT NO U.S. FIRM CAN AGREE TO ANY CONDITION THAT WOULD IMPLY DISCRIMINATION AGINST ANOTHER U.S. FIRM IN U.S. DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL TRADE. NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ONLY IS IT VIOLATION OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT BUT ALSO OF U.S. ANTI-TRUST LEGISLATION: PENALTIES COULD ALSO BE ASSESSED UNDER CURRENT TAX LAWS. I PLAN TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS JUST THIS TYPE OF LANGUAGE THAT CAUSED CONGRESS TO ACT TO PASS STRICT ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION TO PROTECT AMERICAN COMPANIES FROM BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BY OTHER AMERICAN COMPANIES.

4. SINCE KROUHA MAY WELL ASK ME WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL CONDITIONS DO WE BELIEVE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO MANY U.S. COMPANIES BIDDING ON ADNOC PROJECTS AT RUWAIS AND ELSEWHERE, I WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE HIM WITH ILLUSTRATIVE LANGUAGE ACCEPTABLE TO U.S. RATHER THAN MERELY GIVE HIM A COPY OF U.S. ANTI-BOYCOTT REGULATIONS AND LET ADNOC LAWYERS FEND FOR THEM-

SELVES. I DOUBT ADNOC LEGAL STAFF TECHNICALLY
COMPETENT UNDERSTAND OR INTERPRET EAA REGULATIONS
NOR DO THEY HAVE ANY PARTICULAR INCENTIVE TO DO
SO IF SIMILAR GOODS AND SERVICES CAN BE OBTAINED
FROM NON-U.S. SOURCES WITHOUT FURTHER MODIFICATION
ADNOC SPECIAL CONDITIONS. WHILE I REALIZE EMBASSY
SHOULD NOT GET INTO NEGOTIATING POSITION ON BOYCOTT LANGUAGE, THERE ARE NOW LARGE NUMBER OF U.S.
COMPANIES BIDDING FOR VARIOUS CONTRACTS OR SUPPLY
OF DIFFERENT GOODS AND SERVICES FOR ADNOC'S MAMMOTH
RUWAIS PROJECT AND MANY HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF
DOLLARS ARE AT STAKE. AT MOMENT, EACH AMERICAN
COMPANY IS OPERATING INDEPENDENTLY IN SEEKING ADVICE
FROM EMBASSY AS WELL AS FROM ITS WON LAWYERS AT HOME.

5. THEREFORE, WOULD LIKE SUGGEST THAT WE GIVE KROUHA A STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES WHICH CONFORMS WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABU DHABI BOYCOTT INSTRUCTION ISSUED LAST YEAR (77 ABU DHABI 1123) AND DOES NOT IMPUGN UAE APPLICATION OF PRIMARY BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL.

- -- A. THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE BUYER REQUIRES OBSERVANCE OF THE LAWS OF ABU DHABI WITH RESPECT TO BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL IS FOLLOWS:
- (1) SELLER AGREES THAT IT WILL NOT FURNISH OR IMPORT INTO THE UAE GOODS OR SERVICES OF ISRAELI ORIGIN NOR WILL IT USE ISRAELI FLAG VESSELS OR CARRIERS.
- (2) EACH DELIVERY SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CERTIFICATE OR ORIGIN WHICH SHALL SHOW THE NAME OF THE MANUFACTURER AND COUNTRY OR ORIGIN AS WELL AS THE ORIGIN, NATIONALITY AND PERCENTAGE OF FOREIGN MATERIALS IF ANY USED IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED DELIVERY.
- (3) CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN SHALL BE COUNTERSHIGNED BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN COUNTRY OR ORIGIN. THE CERTIFICATE SHALL ALSO BE COUNTERSIGNED AND LEGALIZED BY THE NEAREST UAE EMBASSY. IN COUNTIES WHERE THE UAE HAS NO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION, COUNTERSIGNATURE AND LEGALIZATION BY ANY OTHER ARAB EMBASSY SHALL BE ACCEPTED.

THE INTERPRETATION, ADMINISTRATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE OBSERVANCE OF THIS PROVISION SHALL BE UNDER THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE DIRECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE BUYER. END QUOTE.

6. WE UNCERTAIN WHETHER PRESS FOR ELIMINATION OR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MODIFICATION OF PARAGRAPHS A(1) AND B IN CURRENT ADNOC SPECIAL CONDITIONS. CLAUSE THAT PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED IN FRG ARE NOT PART OF GERMAN REPARATIONS FOR ISRAEL IS STANDARD LANGUAGE FOR ALL CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLERS WHETHER GERMAN OR NOT. NOT CLEAR TO US THAT IT RELATES TO U.S. COMMERCE. WOULD ACCEPTANCE BY AMERICAN CONTRACTOR OF SUCH LANGUAGE

CONSTITUTE VIOLATION OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT? WE ALSO UNCERTAIN ABOUT PARA (B) WHICH APPEARS TO REITERATE CONDITIONS IN PRECEDING SENTENCE. WE INTEND TO POINT OUT THAT PARA (B) IS VAGUE AND AMERICAN CONTRACTOR CANNOT LEGALLY PLEDGE TO VIOLATE LAWS OF U.S. IF THIS IS INTENT OF PARAGRAPH. HOWEVER, WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS WHETHER THIS CLAUSE AS WORDED WOULD GIVE ANY PROBLEMS UNDER OUR ANTI-BOYCOTT REGULATIONS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE ADDRESSES' REACTION TO OUR PROPOSAL TO GIVE ADNOC GENERAL MANAGER ILLUSTRATIVE LANGUAGE FOR SPECIAL CONDTIONS THAT WOULD PERMIT U.S. COMPANIES TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLY GOODS AND SERVICES FOR RUWAIS PROJECT. TO BE USEFUL WE WILL NEED HAVE AT LEAST PRELIMINARY REACTIONS BY COB WASHINGTON TIME FEBRUARY 15 VIA NIACT CABLE. DICKMAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: BOYCOTTS, TRANSACTION CHECKS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 09 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE060426
Document Source: CDR

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: DTMORRISON Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780105-1036

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1 Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780387/aaaacvhq.tel

Line Count: 242 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation Codes. Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 75664cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ORIGIN NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 ABU DHABI 3427, 78 ABU DHABI 186

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3384594 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ADNOC APPLICATION OF ARAB BOYCOTT REGULATIONS FOR RUWAIS PROJECT

TAGS: ETRD, TC, ADNOC
To: ALEXANDRIA AMMAN MULTIPLE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75664cca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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